

THE MORNING NEWS

Your Source for local news in English

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Reina Beatrix Airport welcomes LAN Colombia's inaugural flight



Minister of Tourism Otmar Oduber cuts the ribbon



ORA NJESTAD -- Aruba's Minister of Tourism, Transport, Culture and Primary Sector, Otmar Oduber, was very pleased to officially welcome the first LAN flight from Bogotá, Colombia, not long after midnight, yesterday morning.

This is the second airline to provide essential, direct service to this important Colombian city, and as part of the LATAM Airlines Group, it offers connections

to twenty other vital South American destinations for business or leisure travel.

LAN is the flag carrier of Chile, the predominant airline in Chile, Perú and Ecuador, and the second largest carrier in Argentina and Colombia through its local subsidiaries. LAN is currently positioned amongst the largest airlines in Latin America, serving Latin America, North America, the Caribbean, Oceania, and Europe. 49th oldest air carrier in

the world from its foundation date, and the 10th oldest airline in operation today. Its main hub is Santiago International Airport.

CEO of the Aruba Airport Authority (AAA), Peter Steinmetz, along with CEO of the Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA), Ronella Tjin Asjoe-Croes, were also on hand to extend a hand of greeting to LAN Colombia's Director, Cristian Ortiz Valenzuela. Also present was the Consul of Colombia on Aruba, Mirza Gnecco Pla.

A traditional exchange of gifts took place in the VIP room of the Reina Beatrix International Airport after the group jointly cut the ribbon for the inauguration of the twice-weekly service.

Continued on pg 2

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Biden to meet Japan leaders amid China tensions

TOKYO (AFP) - US Vice President Joe Biden will meet Japanese leaders Tuesday, with Tokyo hoping for some fulsome backing in its vicious territorial spat with China.

Biden arrived in Tokyo late Monday on the first leg of an Asian tour that will also take him to Beijing and to Seoul.

It comes as tensions in the region are at their highest for years, with China and Japan squaring off over a chain of uninhabited islands in the East China Sea.

"In Tokyo, the Vice President will reaffirm the enduring strength of the US-Japan alliance as a cornerstone of peace and stability in the region," the White House said in a statement.

Last month Beijing declared an Air Defence Identification Zone, or ADIZ, over the East China Sea, including the disputed chain, in which it warned all aircraft had to obey Chinese orders or face unspecified "defensive emergency measures".

The US, Japan and South Korea, angry at the declaration, have all sent military or paramilitary aircraft into the zone since.

In Washington, senior administration officials said Biden, who is expected to

meet Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing later this week, plans to convey Washington's "concerns" to China and seek clarity regarding its intentions with the move.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe will be looking for Biden to bolster his position that China is being unreasonable and aggressive, said Takehiko Yamamoto, professor of international politics at Waseda University in Tokyo.

"But at the same time, Washington does not want to take the risk of damaging its bilateral ties with China," he said.

Analysts point out that Tokyo and Washington appear at odds over instructions to their airline flying over the zone, with Tokyo telling its firms they should not comply and the US advising American companies that they should.

As well as meetings with Abe and vice premier Taro Aso, Biden will sit down with Crown Prince Naruhito.

He will move to Beijing on Wednesday to hold talks with Xi before flying to Seoul, where he is to meet South Korean President Park Geun-Hye.

President Barack Obama, who spent part of his childhood in Indonesia, pledged in his first term to "pivot" US foreign policy toward Asia.

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Reina Beatrix Airport welcomes LAN...

Continued from pg 1



Director of LAN Colombia receives a gift from Aruba's Ministry of Tourism



Aruba's welcoming committee



It was followed by a champagne toast to what is expected to be a long and mutually advantageous partnership between the AAA, ATA and LAN, "with the strong belief of the eventual-ity of daily service."

It is projected the airline will bring a possible 36,192 visitors and businesspersons to Aruba annually. The twice weekly flights depart Colombia on Wednesday and Sunday, to return from Aruba in the wee hours on Thursdays and Mondays.

The LAN Colombia flight on an Airbus 320, with a capacity of 174 passengers, departs Bogotá at around midnight to arrive on Aruba approximately at 1:30 AM. It turns around and heads back to Colombia at 2:00 AM. The unusual hour is more cost efficient, a savings which is passed on in the reasonable price of passage. The arrival time in Bogotá also allows passengers ample time to connect to early morning flights to other Latin American cities.

By Rosalie Klein



Colombian Consul to Aruba Mirza Gnecco Pla




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New Orleans fact finding mission set for March 2014



Last September Ministers Oduber and de Meza met with a group of local investors to present a big idea for San Nicolas. The idea was to develop a Caribbean Street following the concept of the Bourbon Street in New Orleans. This is within the context of making San Nicolas the second tourism capital of the island.

According to Minister Oduber, if we want to create additional spending opportunities for tourism there is no other option than investing in San Nicolas. The government has already put the foundation in place for the further development of San Nicolas. A Tourism Office has been opened, infrastructural changes have been made and everything is ready to start with the Green corridor, making San Nicolas easier accessible to the tourist. The government is committed to doing whatever is necessary to create the same success of the Caribbean Festival by expanding this to other activities and even making it an everyday event. The additional 100 dollars we want spent will not happen if we just put another restaurant, or another café in the area, says Oduber.

All the research literature shows that what we need is culture, history and art forms to offer visitors. For this reason the government has taken the initiative to organize presentations with groups of local investors who have shown interest in the Caribbean Street project. They have also organized a fact finding mission to New Orleans. This will be held in the month of March 2014.

The intention of this fact

finding mission is to explore the success of Bourbon Street, a street with culture, art and history similar to what we want to create for the San Nicolas Caribbean Street. According to the Minister, the fiscal incentives for San Nicolas have made the area more interesting for local investors and that is what they want to focus on now.

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ORANJESTAD -- In the month of April 2014 a new basic course of training to become a military for Aruba, the so-called EVO 2014 will be starting. Those who complete this course successfully receive a contract from the government of Aruba. This course is physically and men-

tally very demanding and has a duration of at least 16 weeks.

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A commission makes the final decision on who gets chosen for the EVO course in 2014.

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The application forms may be picked up at the main entrance of the Marines Camp in Savaneta.



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Amsterdam Manor Beach Resort receives award Hotel provides work for disabled



ORANJESTAD — Amsterdam Manor Beach Resort received an award from Plataforma pa Persona cu Limitacion for providing work for the disabled. Today [December 3] is the International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

Managing Director Jurgen van Schaijk received the award from Plataforma pa Persona cu Limitacion (PPL).

last Friday during a live TV broadcast of Nos

Mainta. During this show they talked about all the opportunities for persons with a disability and how Amsterdam Manor Beach Resort is providing work for them. They also had two employees of Cas Sjaburuni showing them what they have done at the resort and where they work.

Amsterdam Manor Beach Resort has persons with different disabilities, physically or mentally, working in different departments. Van Schaijk feels that everybody can be of a helping hand and together with the employee he looks for the best suitable work environment.

Photos depict: top live broadcast and bottom the award.

Veteran MLB pitcher and now scout Calvin Maduro back on Aruba

ORANJESTAD -- There is quite a bit of attention on Aruba at present as the source of some strong Major League players, the latest being Xander Bogaerts, who came home with a World Series ring just a few short months after moving up to the "Big Show."

However, he is preceded by some lauded athletes, Eugene Kingsale, Sidney Ponson, and the handsome Calvin Maduro. Both Maduro and Ponson were pitchers for the Boston Orioles, and contemporaries. Together, with Kingsale, they were named Knights in the Order of Oranje-Nassau in 2003, for their contributions to the community and their enhancement of the name of Aruba and The Netherlands in the world athletic arena. The three of them formed foundation on Aruba to help young ballplayers, and during the years 2004-2005, recruited a number of famous MLB players to join them on the island for fundraising exhibition games.

Calvin played for five years in the MLB from 1996 until 2002. He made his debut as a pitcher for the Philadelphia Phillies only five days after Eugene Kingsale, the first Aruban to play in the Major Leagues.

Maduro played for the Baltimore Orioles from 2000 through 2002 and represented the Netherlands at the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens, where he and his team finished sixth. In those years he played for the Dutch major league club HCAW.

He eventually took on the position of pitching coach for the Aberdeen IronBirds of the New York-Penn League, an Orioles farm team. He spent three seasons there,



Calvin Maduro with friend Edson Kelly, Scout with the Kansas City Royals

then two more seasons with the Gulf Coast Orioles before becoming a scout in 2010.

Maduro's work as a scout frequently brings him back to Aruba, as he travels the Caribbean looking for talent. He calls Maryland his permanent home. Right now he is back on the island, and TMN caught him checking into The Mill Resort, where he will be interviewed by local media personality Eddie Peterson, better known as "Jan Poets," along with Jonathan Schoop of Curacao, also on the island for a bit of R&R until spring training begins.

Schoop, along with Manny Machado, represented the Orioles at the 2011 All-Star Futures Game. He was awarded the Brooks Robinson Minor League Player of the Year, given to the best player in the Orioles minor league system. Schoop was recalled from the minors to the Orioles in September of this year.

While doing business on Aruba, Calvin Maduro con-

fessed he has a single priority and was about to realize a long-time dream. "Tonight I am meeting Padu!" he revealed, as excited as a school boy. Juan Chabaya "Padu" Lampe, internationally known as "Padu Del Caribe," is a noted artist, author, poet and musician, as well as co-composer of Aruba's national anthem, "Aruba Dushi Terra."

Maduro admits to always admiring Aruba's "Father of Culture," while being rather intimidated as a young man of being in the presence of so accomplished an individual. "I will treasure having a picture with him that I can show my son, explaining how special it is to actually shake his hand and chat with such a personage I can wait to hear about his inspiration for our national anthem from his own lips. Imagine meeting Francis Scott Key...I think this is no less momentous!"

By Rosalie Klein

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All natural and smelling heavenly Festive launch of beauty line: *By Carroll* at De Suikertuin



ORANJESTAD -- Friends, colleagues and family members flocked to the intimate back garden of De Suikertuin restaurant last Friday evening for the festive launch of a new line of beauty products. Home-made and perfected during the 10 years that Carroll Croes-Guiano has worked on her line, it made quite an impact. Not only do the products smell heavenly, but, judging from Carroll's gorgeous skin, they work wonders!

"When I was younger, I suffered from kidney problems that caused havoc with my skin," tells Carroll, now

32 years old and math teacher at Colegio Arubano. "I tried everything under the sun to get rid of the terrible lesions, flaking and other damage, but nothing really worked. At my wits' end I started using various oils, mixing them with herbs and other natural ingredients, trying out new recipes until my skin finally healed. Since I have been using my own, perfected products, I have never had any more skin problems. My kidney problems were also overcome, thank God."

Carroll uses dry oils, that fade into the skin, essential oils and other oils like co-

conut-, palm tree-, almond- and jojoba oil that form the basis for her three lines. The Body and Face Rose dry oil is made with rose essential oil, jojoba oil, vitamin E and fruit seed oil, while the eucalyptus oil, calming and antiseptic, is mixed with mandarin; the relaxing and soothing lavender oil is mixed with ylang ylang. Carroll also sells lip balm and rose water, made with, of course, all natural ingredients. Her products were splendidly showcased last Friday.

The attractive bottles of dry oil are designed by scientist Werner Joho, who also



advised her about the packaging, labeling and the listing of ingredients. Nothing that is used is diluted or contains alcohol. One other interesting

thing is that the bottles can be refilled. A bottle of By Carroll oil sells for AWG. 25,-; refills are less. Shortly Carroll's website will be launched (www.bycarroll.com) so clients can be kept up to date that way. For now you can mail Carroll with orders, questions and more at bycarroll@outlook.com.

As guests enjoyed delicious, bite-sized hors-d'oeuvres and plentiful drinks, the sales of the By Carroll products went through the roof: they make a great gift, but are also a treat if you wish to pamper yourself. A good thing that De Suikertuin's pretty back yard has no ceiling!





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NYC crash train nearly three times over speed limit: probe

NEW YORK (AFP) - The New York commuter train which derailed at the weekend leaving four people dead was traveling at nearly three times the recommended speed limit when it hurtled off the tracks, federal investigators said Monday.

National Transportation Safety Board member Earl Weener said the train involved in Sunday's accident in the Bronx had clocked 82 miles (131 kilometers) per hour as it entered a curve where the limit was 30 miles (48 kilometers) per hour.

"Preliminary information, from the event recorders, shows that the train was traveling at approximately 82 miles per hour as it went into a 30 mile an hour curve," Weener said.

Investigators also found that shortly before the crash the train's throttle had gone to

idle and there had been a sudden loss in brake pressure.

"Our investigators will be carefully reviewing all the data to determine the functioning of the brakes throughout the trip and to determine why the throttle went to zero, brake pressure went to zero," Weener said.

"At this point, we are not aware of any problems or anomalies with the brakes."

The train, carrying between 100 and 150 people, crashed at around 7:20 am (1320 GMT) Sunday as it headed south to Grand Central Station in Manhattan.

The train's seven cars derailed just before it reached Spuyten Duyvil station and flew across a grassy bank separating the railroad from the Hudson and Harlem rivers, which meet at that point.

The front car came to rest only a few feet from the water and two cars toppled on their side.

Weener said investigators had begun questioning the driver and would continue to do so over the coming days.

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo said earlier Monday the cause of the crash, which also left 67 people injured, was most likely "speed-related," noting that the stretch of track involved in the accident was "tricky" but not especially hazardous.

"This was a tricky turn on the system, but it's a turn that's been here for decades and trains negotiate all day long," he told NBC.

"I think it's going to turn out to be about the speed more than anything, and the operator's operation of the train at that time."



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Qatar sacks Dutch head of media freedom centre

DOHA (AFP) - The Doha Centre for Media Freedom said on Monday that it has sacked its Dutch director general, Jan Keulen, without giving a reason for his departure.

Keulen took up the post in 2011, two years after his predecessor Robert Menard resigned and complained that the organisation was "stifled" by authorities and lacked independence.

"Doha Centre for Media Freedom has announced the departure of its general director, Jan Keulen, who was relieved of his duties on November 26," it said.

The statement said a replacement was being sought for Keulen, but did not provide any more details about the decision, which staff had been informed of on Sunday.

Keulen himself said he was unsure as to why he had been fired, as he confirmed his departure in a message posted on Facebook.

"I'm leaving Doha Centre for Media Freedom... Of course, there remain a lot of unanswered questions why I

was sacked this way, but I'm sure we'll know more in the coming weeks and months," he wrote.

The Doha Centre for Media Freedom was created in 2007 by the Qatar Foundation chaired by Sheikha Moza bint Nasser al-Masnad -- the mother of Qatar's emir -- and global media watchdog Reporters Without Borders.

The Centre describes itself as "a non-profit organisation working for press freedom and quality journalism in Qatar, the Middle East and the world".

But in 2009, Menard had charged that "certain Qatari officials never wanted an independent Centre, one that was free to express its views without being limited by political or diplomatic considerations, one that was free to criticise Qatar itself".

On Monday the Centre stressed its "continued commitment to all its local and international partnerships in the field of media, the protection of journalists and press freedom".



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Iceland's first-ever police shooting leaves one dead

REYKJAVIK (AFP) - A man has been shot dead in Iceland's first-ever armed police operation, officials said on Monday.

With a population of only 322,000 and one of the lowest crime rates in the world, police rarely draw their weapons in the island nation.

The incident was "without precedent" in Iceland's history, national police chief Haraldur Johannessen told a press conference in Reykjavik.

The victim, a man in his late 50s, fired a shotgun several times in his apartment in the early hours of Monday morning, forcing police to evacuate residents of the building in east Reykjavik.

When they failed to make contact with him the police then fired gas canisters through his windows in an attempt to immobilise him.

"That did not work and the man started shooting out of the windows of the apartment," said Reykjavik police chief Stefan Eriksson.

A police SWAT team then entered the apartment.

One officer was hit in the helmet and the other on a shield but neither were injured.

When they returned fire the man was fatally injured and later died in hospital.

"The police regrets this incident and wishes to extend its condolences to the man's family," said national police chief Johannessen.

An investigation has been opened to determine why the victim began shooting and whether he was under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

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Colombia rebel group urges drug 'decriminalization'

HAVANA (AFP) - Colombia's FARC guerrilla group Monday called on the government of Juan Manuel Santos to decriminalize coca growing and drug use, in peace talks in Havana.

FARC negotiator Pablo Catatumbo made the proposal before the day's talks, which are centered on drug trafficking, resumed.

The rebels have long been accused of partly funding its operations through protecting drug smuggling routes in rural areas it controls.

Colombia vies with Bolivia

as the world's biggest exporter of cocaine.

In a brief statement read to the press, Catatumbo said the FARC was proposing "demilitarization of anti-drug policies, non intervention by imperialism, and decriminalization of the rural poor" who grow coca, he said.

The lead government negotiator, former vice president Humberto de La Calle, said last week that the government intends to continue its crop eradication programs.

The guerrilla group also



called for decriminalizing consumption of drugs and treating its use as a health problem.

Colombia's largest and oldest leftist guerrilla group, the FARC has been in peace talks

with the government for over a year.

So far, the sides have reached agreement on two of five subjects of negotiations -- agrarian reform and the FARC's return to political life once a comprehensive peace agreement is reached.

Issues still to be negotiated are reparations for the victims of the conflict and disarmament.

The FARC, established in 1964, has been waging an insurgency against the state for nearly 50 years.



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Iran warns of soaring AIDS cases

TEHRAN (AFP) - The number of AIDS cases in Iran has soared over the past two decades, Health Minister Hassan Hashemi said Monday, warning the Islamic republic can not ignore the problem.

"This disease has increased by 30 percent annually, which is much higher than the rise in inflation or rents," he said, quoted in Shahrivand newspaper.

Hashemi criticised Iran's hush-hush policy on AIDS.

Extra-marital sex is strictly prohibited in Iran, punishable by whipping and imprisonment.

"The pattern has changed from transmission of the infection through drug injection to unprotected sexual intercourse," Hashemi said.

"We need to find new ways to fight AIDS and we should

not be afraid to admit this is a problem of our society," said the minister.

Ali Sayyari, Iran's deputy health minister, blamed the phenomenon on satellite TV programmes, gyms and beauty salons, describing them as a "triangle of death".

According to UN statistics, the number of people in Iran living with HIV reached 71,000 in 2012.

Iran has moved to fight the spread of AIDS by making condoms easily available in shops and educating the public of the consequences of sex with multiple partners.

On Sunday, World AIDS Day, the government announced plans to distribute AIDS leaflets in schools and special kits across Iran to easily diagnose the disease.

Five month old Maverick denied heart transplant



NEW YORK - Doctors at New York Presbyterian Hospital declined to give a sick boy a heart transplant, his mother claims. They refused the transplant because he had a disease they believed would leave him with mental and physical disabilities the parents stated. Maverick was born with a heart defect and was later diagnosed with Coffin-Siris Syndrome, which is so rare that fewer than 100 cases have surfaced since it was identified in the 1970s. Mom Autumn Chenkus, told CNN on Saturday accused the doctors of "discrimination," saying they didn't want to "waste" a heart on her son. The desperate parents tried unsuccessfully to get him admitted to hospitals in Cleveland and Philadelphia. Finally, he was accepted by Boston Children's Hospital, which said it would consider him for a new heart. While there, he improved so much that doctors said he no longer needed a transplant and sent him home.

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Germany having second thoughts on legalised prostitution



BERLIN (AFP) - A decade after Germany legalised prostitution, a debate has kicked off to again ban the trade, with leading feminist Alice Schwarzer labelling the country "a paradise for pimps".

Dozens of politicians, actors and journalists last month have signed Schwarzer's appeal to Chancellor Angela Merkel and parliament to abolish sex work.

"We know there is slavery in the world today, but there is no modern democratic country that would tolerate, accept or promote slavery," she said at a recent Berlin press conference on her new book "Prostitution, A German Scandal".

"However, Germany tolerates, accepts and promotes prostitution, mostly at the expense of the poorest women from neighbouring countries."

She urged a review of the 2002 law -- passed under a

centre-left Social Democrats-Greens coalition government - that theoretically gave sex workers access to unemployment insurance, controlled working conditions and medical coverage.

The founder of the feminist magazine Emma argued that the law backfired and has turned Germany into a "paradise for pimps" who can now more easily exploit women, especially from poorer central European countries like Romania and Bulgaria.

Schwarzer, 70, said this "liberalisation of prostitution has been a disaster for the people involved," estimating the number of prostitutes working in Germany now at 700,000.

In a 2007 report -- with the official figures so far on the effects of the law -- the government conceded that the outcome had been disappointing and the legal change did

not "actually improve the welfare of prostitutes".

The study found that only one percent of prostitutes had an employment contract.

Many social workers and police also report that the law only aggravated the situation.

"It is now indisputable that there is an urgent need to effectively respond to the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings, which is spreading," the police commissioner of the southern city of Augsburg, Helmut Sporer, told a parliamentary inquiry in June.

National police data shows that reported cases of human trafficking have been on the decline, from 811 in 2002 to 432 in 2011, the latest year for which figures are available.

The renewed debate to curb prostitution has now made it onto the agenda of ongoing coalition talks between Merkel's conservative Christian Democrats and the Social Democrats.

The writer, who was involved in the French women's liberation movement while she was a Paris correspondent, also praised the current push there to stamp out prostitution, spearheaded by women's rights minister Najat Vallaud-Belkacem.

During her Berlin presentation, Schwarzer was whistled at and booed by audience members who said they were sex workers.



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Murano Bijoux and More announces the arrival of the new Antica Murrina bracelet: G-Lace. Perfect for all occasions: weddings, gifts, birthdays, etc... All styles: casual, elegant, innovative, in 12 available colors and styles, for only \$ 22!

Sensuality and irony, romanticism and game embroidery a soft kiss on your skin. The handcrafted glass working gives shape to the soft lips by Antica Murrina. Now available only at Murano Bijoux and More, at Paseo Herencia Mall.

We found this unique store in Aruba: the Authentic Murano Glass jewelry and decorations, from Murano- Italy, to Aruba.

"Murano Glass" is only made on the island of Murano. Murano is one of the islands that compose Venice, "Venezia" in Italian.

Murano Bijoux and More is the first and only store with the concept of Murano home decorations and jewelry in the Caribbean. They have a selection of authentic murano art to make your house look spectacular, and fine jewelry made of glass, using many ancient techniques from the best glass masters in Venice/Italy.

Venetian master glassmakers have been appreciated from centuries. From the Romans and people from Egypt and Syria they learnt ancient techniques to turn the humblest materials as sand and soda into masterpieces of lightness and polychrome transparency.

All the pieces are unique, since they are all hand-made. Murano is art, tradition, style and design, it's like an explosion of colors and shapes, from the traditional "millefiori" to the blown glass for lamps, vases and sculptures, the "avventurina" technique, that consists in introduce particles of copper in the glass in the ap-



propriate moment, the exact temperature, so it makes the special effect of an explosion inside the glass bead. The magnificent appearance and coloring of murano glass is achieved by adding gold or silver foil to the glass mixture and/or adding minerals such as zinc for white, cobalt for blue, manganese for violet, and so on.

Murano Bijoux and More is a piece of Venice in Aruba. It is location in the Paseo Herencia Mall, local C-10.

Open Hour: Monday to Saturday: 10:30am-1:00pm and 2:00pm-10:00pm; Sunday: 6:00pm-10:00pm. Contact: murano_aruba@gmail.com facebook.com/muranobijouxandmore

Billionaire Packer in relationship with Kerr: reports



SYDNEY (AFP) - Billionaire gambling tycoon James Packer has reportedly found love with top Australian model Miranda Kerr, just weeks after both announced marriage break-ups.

Packer recently split with wife Erica Baxter, mother of his three young children, with the Sydney Daily Telegraph and other media saying he was now dating Kerr, who has parted ways with Hollywood heartthrob husband Orlando Bloom.

The pair have known each other for years, with the two families holidaying together in Tahiti last year, the reports said.

Casino mogul Packer married Baxter in a 2007 French Riviera ceremony but they announced their separation in September, while former Victoria's Secret model Kerr and Bloom split in October.

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Amazon unveils futuristic drone delivery plan

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Want that Amazon order in just 30 minutes? Company CEO Jeff Bezos says he hopes to soon deploy an armada of mini-drones able to drop small packages at your doorstep.

The US online retail giant's revolutionary project still needs extra safety testing and federal approval, but Bezos believes that Amazon "Prime Air" would be up and running within four to five years.

"These are effectively drones but there's no reason that they can't be used as delivery vehicles," Bezos told CBS television's "60 Minutes" program late Sunday.

A video posted on the company's website shows a prototype drone. The body of the device is about the size of a flat-screen monitor, and it is attached to eight small helicopter rotors and sits on four tall legs.

The claws under the belly of the "octopeter" then latch onto a standard sized plastic bucket that rolls down a conveyor belt at Amazon's distribution center. Inside the bucket is the

order.

The drone lifts off and whizzes into the air like a giant mechanical insect to deliver the package just 30 minutes after clicking the "pay" button on Amazon.com. Then it buzzes back into the air and returns to base.

The mini-drones are powered by environmentally-friendly electric motors and can cover areas within a 10-mile (16-kilometer) radius of fulfillment centers, thus covering a significant portion of the population in urban areas.

The drones operate autonomously and follow the GPS coordinates they receive to drop the items off at target locations.

He also claims they are safe; the prototype has redundant motors that will keep it in the air and prevent it from crashing.

Amazon said the octocopters would be "ready to enter commercial operations as soon as the necessary regulations are in place," noting that the Federal Aviation Administration was hard at work

hammering out rules for the use of unmanned aerial vehicles.

Amazon projected a more optimistic timeline than Bezos himself for the project to be activated, saying the FAA's rules could be in place as early as 2015, and that Amazon Prime Air would be ready at that time.

Bezos hinted that part of the motivation behind the mini-drones was to make sure Amazon remains on the cutting edge of the retail industry.

If the plan succeeds other retailers like Wal Mart, or even the local pizza store, could also start home deliveries via drone.

FAA chief Michael Huerta earlier said he expects some 7,500 small unmanned aircraft buzzing in the US skies in the next five years.

Michael Toscano, head of the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI), predicted that a booming market for civilian drones will lead to the creation of 100,000 jobs over the next decade.

UK authorities forcibly removed baby from Italian's womb: report

LONDON (AFP) - British social services forcibly removed a baby from a pregnant Italian woman's womb by caesarean section while she was in the country on a work trip, a report said.

The woman was sedated and then had the girl taken out of her body after authorities in Essex, eastern England, obtained a court order, the Sunday Telegraph newspaper said, citing her lawyers.

The authorities said the woman had had a mental breakdown and it acted in the best interests of the child, which is now 15 months old, the paper said.

The Italian mother has now launched a legal battle for the

child, which is being put up for adoption by the social services, it said.

The woman had flown into Britain in 2012 for a two-week Ryanair training course at Stansted airport north of London when she suffered a panic attack, which her family believe was due to her failure to take medicine for a bipolar condition, the newspaper said.

She has since launched legal action in Britain and Italy for the return of her daughter but has been told that the child will be placed for adoption.

A British lawmaker, John Hemming from the Liberal Democrat party, will raise the case in parliament this week, the newspaper said.

BlackBerry dismisses demise talk, says 'very much alive'

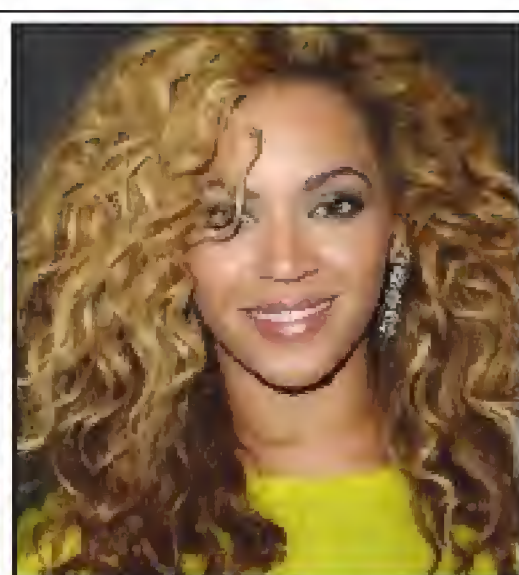
OTTAWA (AFP) - BlackBerry's new chief executive cast off persistent talk of the smartphone maker's demise, vowing on Monday that the company would pick itself back up and was "here to stay."

"Reports of our death are greatly exaggerated," John Chen, who was appointed interim chief executive last month, said in an open letter to customers.

The Waterloo, Ontario-based company helped create a culture of mobile users glued to smartphones, but lost its luster as many moved to iPhones or devices using Google's Android software. BlackBerry still has some 70 million subscribers worldwide, but most of these are using older handsets, with newer devices on the BlackBerry 10 platform failing to gain traction. In September, the company announced that it was laying off 4,500 staff - or one third of its global workforce - after losing \$965 million in its last quarter. Two months later, it scrapped a search for a suitor and nixed a deal with its largest shareholder Fairfax Financial that would have taken the company private, sparking rampant speculation about its future.



WASHINGTON (AFP) - Pop star Beyonce dethroned reality TV personality Kim Kardashian as the most searched person on the Internet in 2013 for Americans, in a year when entertainment celebrities reigned. That was the verdict from Microsoft search engine Bing, which released data on top searches for 12 countries that showed



Web users want to know more about the entertainment world than most other sectors. While Beyonce outpaced Kardashian in the United States, she was also number two in Britain, behind Canadian pop singer Justin Bieber. Britain's number three searched personality was Kate Middleton, the Duchess of Cambridge.

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In Holland Over half a million people have two jobs

THE HAGUE - Some 544,000 people in the Netherlands do two jobs and work in total two hours more a week than those with one place of employment. The national statistics office CBS said on Monday the num-

ber of people with two jobs rose by 12,000 last year. They work, on average, 36 hours a week. Youngsters aged 15 to 25 are most likely to have two jobs - 12% of them have two employ-

Dutch Minister warns private sector about creating jobs for the disabled

THE HAGUE - The government will closely monitor the public and private sector's efforts to create jobs for people with disabilities, junior social affairs minister Jetta Klijnsma said on Monday. Government, employers and unions have agreed to create 125,000 jobs by 2020 for people with disabilities and if progress is not made, quotas will be introduced, Klijnsma said in a briefing to parliament.

From 2015, local councils will have responsibility for disabled workers and helping them find jobs. The current network of sheltered workplaces will largely be abolished and companies will be able to apply for subsidies so they can pay at least minimum wage rates. Klijnsma said she expects 140,000 of the 240,000 young people currently claiming incapacity benefits will be able to work.

Saudi Arabia hints OPEC oil output limit won't change

VIENNA (AFP) - Saudi Arabia is satisfied with current crude prices as well as global supply and demand levels, its oil minister said Monday, indicating OPEC will freeze its

output ceiling. "The market is in the best position it can be," Saudi Arabia's Oil Minister Ali al-Naimi told reporters in Vienna ahead of a meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries on Wednesday to decide on production. "Demand is great, economic growth is improving," said Naimi, who represents the world's biggest producer of crude oil. OPEC's dozen member nations from the Middle East, Africa and Latin America together produce about one third of the world's crude and have an output ceiling of 30 million barrels per day. "Supply and demand are in equilibrium, inventories are in a good position," Naimi said

'Cyber Monday' highlights online holiday shopping rise

NEW YORK (AFP) - The early buzz is that "Black Friday" shopping weekend was a bit of a disappointment for retailers, but hopes remained high that "Cyber Monday" would score big gains. This year's installment of Cyber Monday, which offers up its own plethora of online promotions on the heels of the aggressive "Black Friday" price-cutting, comes amid greater-than-ever signs of the increased importance of online shopping to the entire retail industry.



Forecasters project just three to four percent growth in the entire retail sector this holiday season, while online shopping is expected to soar 13 to 14 percent in the 2013 season. Christopher estimates that online shopping will account for 13.5 percent of the total retail shopping sales this holiday season, up from 12.3 percent last year. Online shopping has always had its appeal in enabling consumers to avoid mobbed shopping malls. Major trends that encourage even more online retail include the increased importance of online sales to brick-and-mortar retailers like Wal-Mart Stores and Best Buy, the proliferation of same-day and other fast-delivery options that could allow more shoppers to shop online until just before Christmas and the advent of new mobile technology tools to shop. Retailers consider the holiday shopping period, which has traditionally begun on Thanksgiving, as the most

year's most important season, accounting for 20 to 40 percent of an individual retailer's overall sales. Analysts have described the US consumer as cautious in the 2013 season, owing to low economic growth and weak job growth. Wealthier consumers are considered somewhat more likely to spend this year, due to higher home prices and appreciating stock values. The National Retail Federation Sunday gave a somewhat disappointing early appraisal of Black Friday weekend, estimating that total sales reached \$57.4 billion, a 2.7 percent decline from last year's \$59.1 billion. But FedEx predicted that Monday would be the "busiest day in FedEx History," with the shipping giant handling 11 percent more packages than last year at 22 million packages overall, more than twice a normal day. Cyber Monday "has historically been our biggest day of the year, and we expect to be again this year," said executive vice chairman Johnathan Johnson at discount online retailer Overstock.com. "This is a day when the deals are deep." The tradition of Cyber Mon-

day harkens back to the early days of the Internet, when consumers relied on faster Internet connections at work to take advantage of deals. A survey by CareerBuilder found 54 percent of Americans will spend some time at work shopping online for the holidays. And Adobe Digital Index analysts project Cyber Monday to be the largest single online shopping day in the history of the Internet, with sales of \$2.27 billion. ComScore, which analyzes online shopping trends, estimated that Americans spent \$1.2 billion on line during Black Friday, an increase of 15 percent from last year. ComScore projects that online sales from personal computers will jump 14 percent to \$48.1 billion this season and 13 percent to \$7.1 billion from mobile devices. Overall US online retail sales will reach \$508 billion by 2020 compared with expected online sales of \$260 billion in 2013, according to a study by FTI Consulting. Tablet-enabled mobile commerce is "knocking down barriers in mobile transacting that the smartphone couldn't," Coulombe added.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

J O B S U B C P A
A H A O N E O L D
C A R P O O L L A D
O R G A N I R A T E
B E E R L E A S E D
S C I F I
S T R O L L D R A W
C H I N A W E E D Y
R E O M A N D E L A
E M T O R B L A T
W E S R C A S I T

on Monday in the Austrian capital, where OPEC is headquartered. "We are at the right price right now... The price is market decided. We're happy with whatever the market determines," he added. Saudi Arabia argues that crude at current prices averaging \$100 per barrel provide acceptable income for producers without weighing too heavily on consumers.



Daily Exchange Rates				
Current as of:	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
12/02/2013				
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.77	1.79	1.69
Britain	GBP	2.80	2.85	2.96
Switzerland	CHF	191.71	192.43	197.05
Netherlands	EUR	230.59	232.69	243.51
Sweden	SEK	25.91	26.63	27.76
Denmark	DKK	30.23	30.95	32.88
Norway	NOK	30.67	31.39	29.56
Japan	JPY	214.88	216.84	174.98
(per 10,000)				
All rates for amounts up to AWG 100,00 per item.				

COMICS

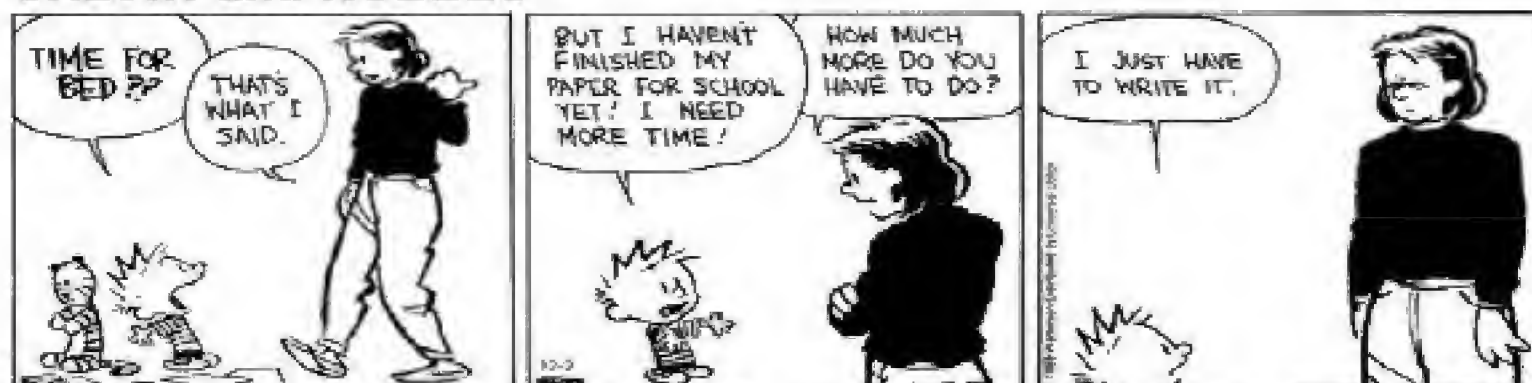
PICKLES



MOMMA



CALVIN and HOBBS



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Bowling term
- 6 Broadcast watchdog agcy.
- 9 "Gun-smoke" marshal
- 10 Retiree's acct.
- 11 Glossy coating
- 12 Songbird
- 14 Drama divisions
- 15 Meeting schedule
- 17 Music's Speed-wagon
- 18 Strike
- 19 "Here — again!" (2 wds.)
- 20 Paid for the gang
- 24 Finger-to-lips noise
- 27 Fir tree
- 28 "Begone!"
- 29 Top aviators
- 30 Break out

32 Actress

- Arden
- 33 Approached
- 34 Home (abbr.)
- 35 Subdued

DOWN

- 1 From that time
- 2 Greek philosopher
- 3 Charity
- 4 Caviar base
- 5 Photographer's

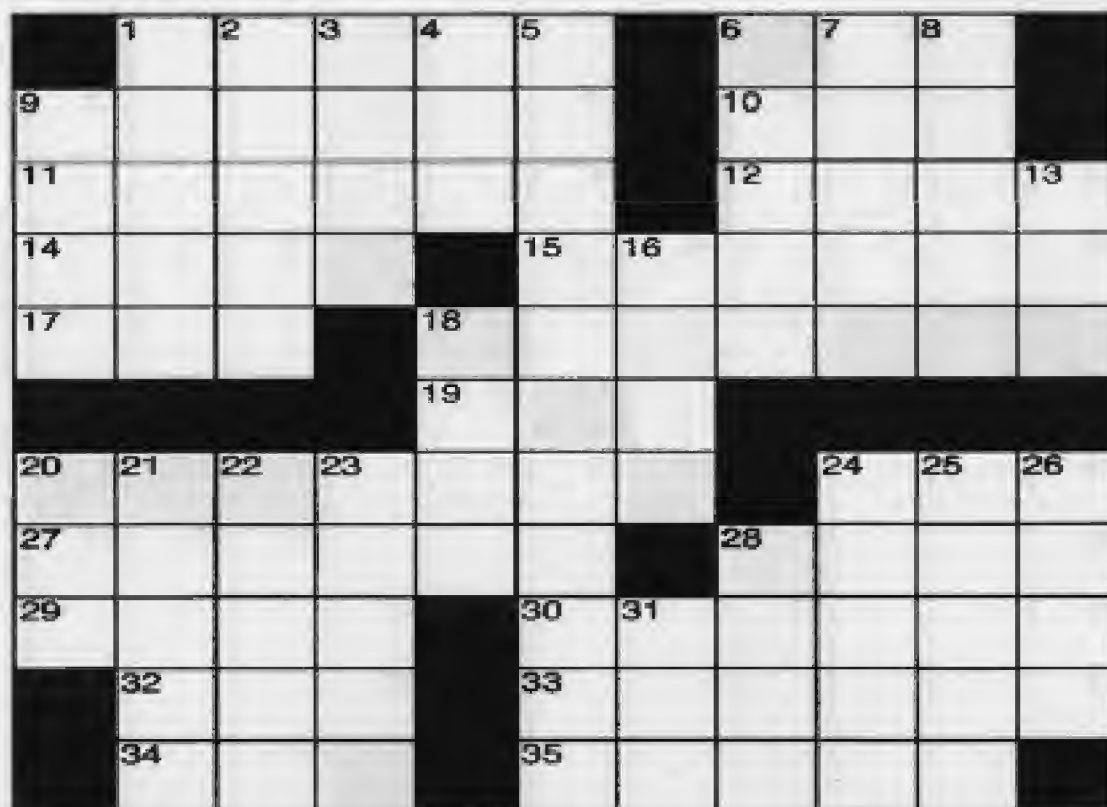
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blowup

- 6 — of sole
- 7 Hoisting device
- 8 Tarots
- 9 Letter greeting
- 13 Kit — Club ("Caba-ret")
- 16 Better than okay
- 18 Mideast bread
- 20 Schedule abbr.

21 Speedway

- competitor
- 22 French student
- 23 Donkeys
- 24 Partake
- 25 Remained optimistic
- 26 Did farm work
- 28 Shell game, e.g.
- 31 Watery expanse



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Fri.-Sun. 9 p.m.-2 a.m.

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Alzheimer's Day
Care Center
Tel: 5696910

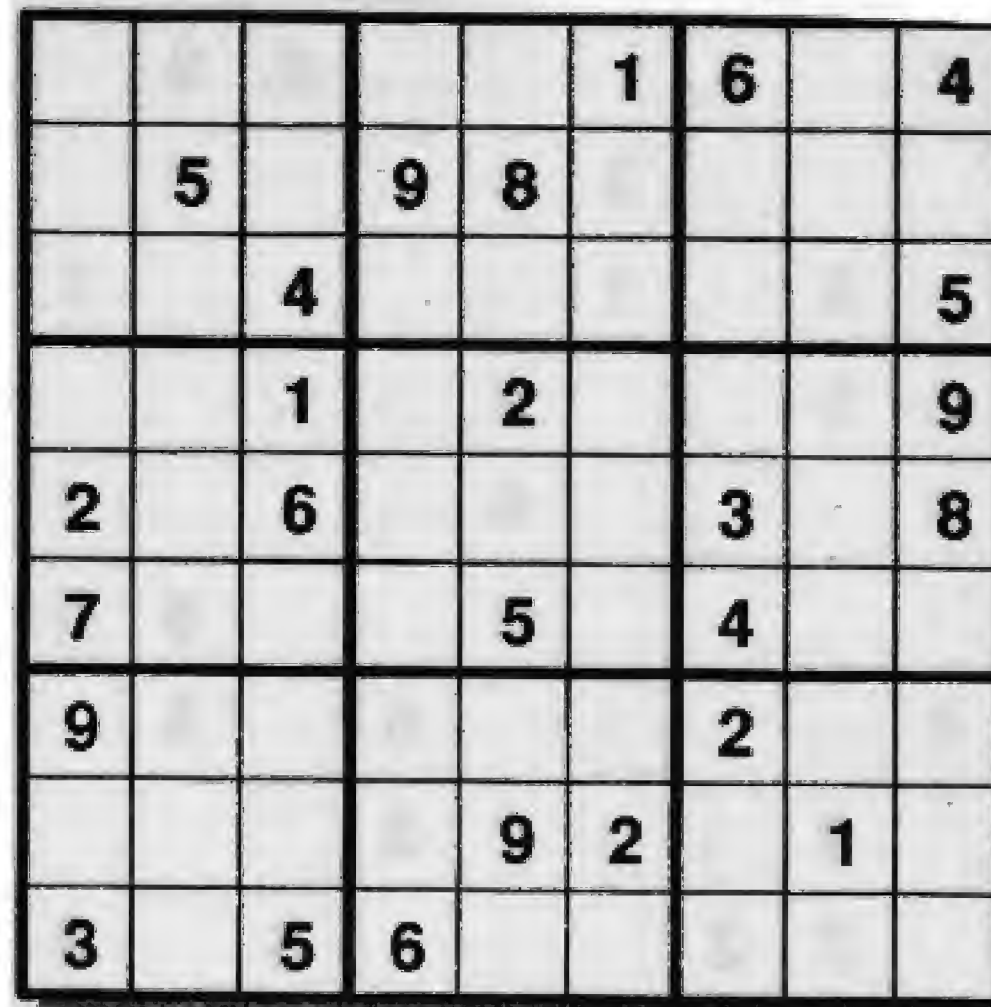
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POLICE HDQS
Telephone 100

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Sudoku



SOLUTION

2	9	6	8	1	9	5	2	6
6	1	5	2	8	2	8	9	9
8	8	2	5	9	6	2	1	6
1	2	9	9	5	8	6	6	2
8	5	6	6	2	1	9	9	2
6	9	2	8	2	9	1	9	5
5	6	9	2	9	2	9	6	1
2	2	1	9	6	8	6	9	9
9	6	9	1	6	5	2	2	8

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

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5 Burgers Aruba: Now your best breakfast bargain!



Delicious Breakfast

--A favorite stop for a great burger for lunch or dinner has just expanded their hours and menu to offer some of the best breakfast bargains to be found in Palm Beach. Owners Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on para-

dise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. The couple's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu from an internationally known franchise with a "5", which now includes breakfast.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," believes Aaron. Upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy, made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

However, beginning at 7 a.m., patrons can now order 2

eggs any style, (omelets with 3 fillings are \$7.99) toast and coffee with unlimited refills for the special introductory price of only \$3.99, or All-you-can-eat pancakes for \$6.99! A new plate called the "Home Run" comes with 2 eggs, bacon or sausage, 2 pancakes, toast & home fries - for only \$9.99! Best of all - unlimited coffee or tea - that is, refillable and never ending is only \$.79! Breakfast is served from 8am until noon. Famous for their fries made from fresh potatoes, Aaron has been working for months on devising the most irresistible home fries recipe, chunky and tender with skins still on; after much testing and tasting, he got the thumbs up from his harshest critic, Rosie; so this is another treat you have to try.

A glance at their burger menu will certainly tempt you to return for lunch or dinner, to sample their famous specialty items such as the Gouda, Farmer's or Man Burger (al-

most 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with Aaron's secret-recipe crispy onion rings. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jala-peño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato...whatever, the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.



5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to

watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!"

Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

5 Burgers is now open from 8am to 10pm-ish Sunday - Thursday. For those late night diners, 5 Burgers is open until 3AM-ish on Friday & Saturdays! Delivery is available to most Hotels and most beaches! Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for either owner to sit and chat, sharing their knowledge of the island while making sure patrons are happy with their meal.

Football: Italy's Serie A

MILAN (AFP) - Gonzalo Higuain hit a brace as Napoli crept closer to second-placed Roma in Italy's Serie A with a 4-2 win away to Lazio on Monday.

Napoli's 10th win left them in third spot but after Roma's fourth consecutive draw on Sunday, Rafael Benitez's men are now only three points behind the Giallorossi and six off leaders Juventus.

With only one win against Napoli in their last five games, and having taken only eight points in their last eight outings, Lazio were desperate for a morale-boosting first success since a 2-0 defeat of Cagliari at the end of October.

Earlier, Fiorentina beat 10-man Verona 4-3 in a seven-goal thriller to tighten their



grip on fifth place and pull level on points with fourth-placed Inter Milan.

Borja Valero scored a brace for the hosts, who also saw Giuseppe Rossi take his league-leading tally to 12 from 14 games from the penalty spot after Bosko Jankovic saw red for handling

in the area.

Peruvian midfielder Juan Vargas had given Fiorentina a 3-2 half-time lead after Romulo and Juan Iturbe had struck for the visitors.

Despite their numerical disadvantage Jorginho reduced the arrears in the 72nd minute for Verona.

Football: Martino rues missed chances as Barca lose in Bilbao



MADRID (AFP) - Barcelona boss Gerardo Martino was left frustrated at his side's failure to take their chances as they lost for the second time in a week 1-0 at Athletic Bilbao on Sunday.

Martino was left less than impressed after experiencing defeat for the first time as Barca boss in a 2-1 reverse away to Ajax in midweek.

And the Argentine's undefeated domestic record was also ended when Iker Muniain slotted home the only goal of the game 20 minutes from time

at San Mames.

Defeat means Barca now lead La Liga only on goal difference from Atletico Madrid, with Real Madrid just three points behind.

However, Martino was much more encouraged by his side's overall display in the Basque country than in Amsterdam five days previously.

"For the first 70 minutes I saw a very good Barcelona side, one completely different from the one the other night. For me, our first-half was one of the best this season.

"Obviously, if we had been able to score first the game would have been very different. The Athletic keeper didn't have much to do, but we had enough chances to score a goal."

With Lionel Messi once again missing due to a hamstring injury, all eyes were on Neymar to compensate for the Argentine's absence.

And the Brazilian had the visitors' best opportunities in either half as he was denied by a fine flying save from Gorka Iraizoz before the break, and then skewed well over when clean through just after the restart.

However, Barca were left enraged when referee Juan Martinez Manuera showed Ander Iturraspe only a yellow card for pulling back Neymar as the Brazilian bore down on goal with the score still at 0-0.

Having gone behind, Martino surprised most by withdrawing both Xavi and Andres Iniesta in the final stages.

But Iniesta insisted he understood his coach's decision to introduce an extra forward in Pedro Rodriguez six minutes from time.

"The coach is the one that acts in the best interests of the team in every situation. There is nothing more to say, he has to think about every player and makes his decisions accordingly."

And despite losing two consecutive games for the first time since April 2012, the Spanish international said the Catalans had to remain calm having previously been on a 20-game unbeaten run.

Briefs:



DETROIT - (L to R) Cindy Curley, Peter Karmanos, Jr., Bill Guerin, Doug Weight and Ron Mason pose for a photo at a media meet and greet prior to their USA Hockey Hall of Fame induction at the Motor City Casino on Monday in Detroit, Michigan.



CHOHLA SAHIB - A Sierra Leone kabaddi player (R) is tackled by his British opponent during the 4th World Cup Kabaddi Punjab 2013 tournament at a stadium in Chohla Sahib (Tarn Taran), about 55 kms from Amritsar on December 2, 2013. Britain won the match with a score of 41-33. Kabaddi, a team sport which originated in the Indian sub-continent, involves team members making 'raids' into the opposing team's territory on a playing field in an attempt to 'tag' opponents while holding one's breath and chanting the word 'kabaddi'.



NEW YORK - The New York Yankees traded catcher Chris Stewart to the Pittsburgh Pirates for a player to be named. Stewart, 31, appeared in 109 games for the Yankees last season, batting .211 with 62 hits, 25 runs batted in and four home runs. In seven Major League Baseball seasons, Stewart has a .214 batting average, with 51 RBIs and eight home runs. Stewart was acquired by the Yankees from the San Francisco Giants on April 4, 2012, in exchange for pitcher George Kontos.

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NFL: Broncos beat Chiefs in battle for division lead

KANSAS CITY (AFP) - Peyton Manning threw four of his five touchdown passes to Eric Decker and Denver thwarted a Kansas City rally to beat the Chiefs 35-28 Sunday in a key NFL division clash.

Manning connected with Decker for three straight touchdowns to open the second half to erase a seven-point deficit and take a 35-21 lead.

Kansas City closed the gap with Jamal Charles's one-yard touchdown plunge with 6:32 remaining, but a fourth-down pass to Dwayne Bowe was deflected by Broncos safety Mike Adams in the end zone.

The Broncos improved to 10-2. Their second victory in three weeks over the Chiefs dropped Kansas City to 9-3 and left Denver one game



ahead atop the AFC West.

Manning and the Broncos beat the Chiefs in Denver earlier this month to end Kansas City's 9-0 winning streak to start the season.

The Chiefs have now lost three straight.

In Minneapolis, Blair Walsh hit a 34-yard field goal with 1:43 left in overtime as the Minnesota Vikings beat the Chicago Bears 23-20. Adrian Peterson totaled 211 yards on 35 carries and became the third-fastest player to eclipse 10,000 career yards.

The defeat saw the Bears fall one game behind Detroit for the top spot in the NFC

North.

The Carolina Panthers stretched their winning streak to a club-best eight games with a 27-6 rout of Tampa Bay.

The Miami Dolphins romped to a 23-3 victory over the Jets at New York's MetLife Stadium. The victory kept the Dolphins in the hunt for an AFC wildcard berth.

In other games, Philadelphia beat Arizona 24-21, Atlanta edged Buffalo 34-31 in overtime in a contest played in Toronto, San Francisco beat St. Louis 23-13 and AFC North leaders Cincinnati beat San Diego 17-10.

NBA: Gasol ankle sprain mild but Lakers lose Farmar for month

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Los Angeles Lakers guard Jordan Farmar will be sidelined about four weeks with a torn left hamstring but Spanish big man Pau Gasol has only a mild right ankle sprain, the NBA club said Monday.

Farmar underwent an ultrasound test Monday to diagnose his problem while Gasol had an MRI exam to confirm his injury was not more serious.

Farmar suffered his injury in the first quarter of Sunday's 114-108 home loss to Portland. In 18 games this season, Far-

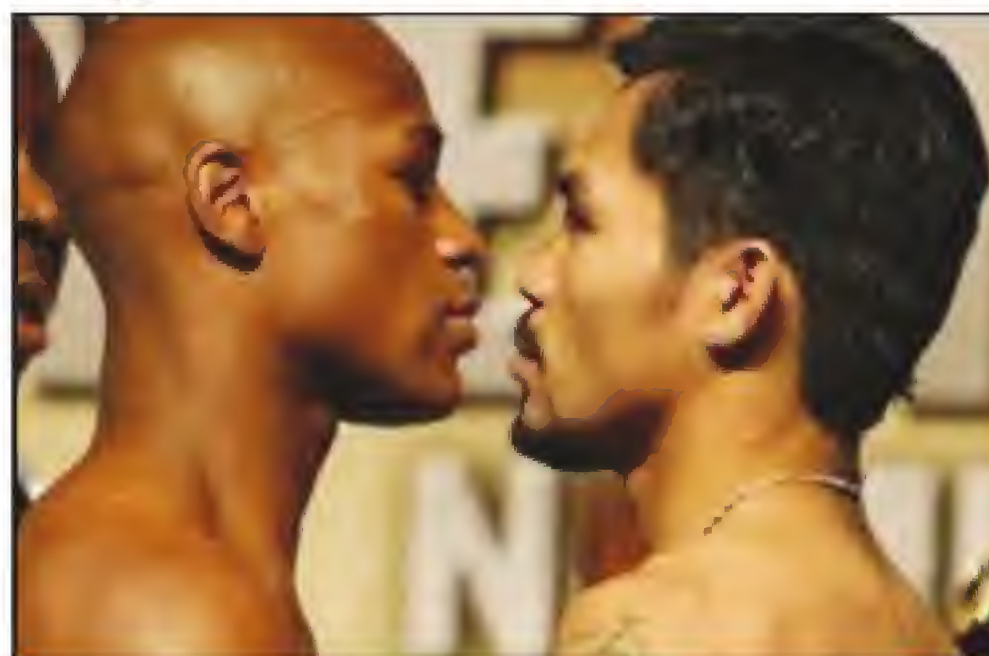
mar is averaging 9.2 points, 4.4 assists and 2.9 rebounds.

In all, Farmar figures to miss about 13 games for the Lakers, returning around the time they have a New Year's Eve home game against Milwaukee.

In 18 games this season, Gasol is averaging 14.3 points, 9.9 rebounds and 1.3 blocked shots.

The Lakers are 9-9, three games behind the Los Angeles Clippers in the Pacific division. They do not play again until Friday at Sacramento and the next Lakers home game is Sunday against Toronto.

Pacquiao-Mayweather Fight Possible in 2014



NEW YORK - The long-awaited fight between the former pound-for-pound boxer Manny Pacquiao and American undefeated boxer Floyd Mayweather, Jr. may be possible.

If both fighters would continue to dominate the sport of boxing, then the biggest match will happen late next year. Floyd Jr. is now committed to

protect his legacy. According to some of his fans, Floyd Jr. will retire soon in the sport of boxing. But before doing that, he needs to defeat the Filipino boxing icon.

Meanwhile the identity of Mayweather's opponent for an anticipated May 3, 2014 fight remains uncertain.

Athletics to sign Scott Kazmir to a 2-year deal



OAKLAND - The two-time defending American League West champions have agreed with left-hander Scott Kazmir on a two-year, \$22 million contract, according to several news media reports. The deal means the A's won't bring back free agent Bartolo Colon, who finished sixth in the AL Cy Young Award race after going 18-6 with a 2.65 ERA in his second season in Oakland. Kazmir, who turns 30 on Jan. 24, will be the oldest and highest-paid starter in a rotation full of pitchers with two or fewer full seasons in the majors, such as right-handers Jarrod Parker, Sonny Gray, A.J. Griffin and Dan Straily.

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E-mail:
themorningnewsaruba@gmail.com
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Boxing: Khan will be at Alexander fight, but not in the ring



NEW YORK (AFP) - British boxer Amir Khan will be in the arena when Devon Alexander defends his world welterweight title Saturday, just not in the ring as the US champion had originally intended.

Khan will serve as a ringside commentator for Showtime for the telecast of the card at Brooklyn's Barclays Center, replacing Paulie Malignaggi, the regular commentator who will instead be in the ring against Zab Judah in a main-event showdown of hometown heroes.

With a deal almost set, Khan decided against fighting US southpaw Alexander for the International Boxing Federation welterweight crown amid speculation that the Briton will be the next opponent for unbeaten Floyd Mayweather next May.

While the Khan and Mayweather camps have said no such deal is in place, neither fighter has announced his next opponent.

"They felt I was a big risk, that I was too much for him right now," Alexander, who faces unbeaten American Shawn Porter instead, says of Khan's backers. "I was ready to fight him. He pulled out so it didn't happen that way."

In the meantime, former world light-welterweight champion Khan will handle guest analyst duties in the fight, as well as for Judah-Malignaggi, a subject he knows well having beaten Malignaggi in 2010 and Judah in 2011.

Khan, who won a silver medal at the 2004 Athens Olympics at age 17, turns 27 on Sunday. He is 28-3 with 19 knockouts.

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NFL: League admits refs blundered in Giants win over Redskins

NEW YORK (AFP) - NFL officials admitted Monday that referees blundered in the final seconds of the New York Giants' 24-17 victory Sunday over the Washington Redskins.

But there is nothing the Redskins can do but wonder what might have happened after suffering their ninth loss in 12 games.

Robert Griffin III completed a 4-yard pass on second down to the Washington 45-yard line very near the line to gain for a first down.

Referee Jeff Triplette signaled third down as the Redskins, hoping to march downfield for a tying touchdown, worked without a huddle in a "hurry-up offense."

But the head linesman incorrectly had the sideline yardage marker crew move the chains forward as if the Redskins had gained a new set of downs and the markers reset to indicate first down.

Thinking Washington had a first down, Redskins coach Mike Shanahan called for a long pass to tight end Fred Davis that he dropped. Pierre Garcon had the ball ripped out of his hands on fourth down by Giants defender Will Hill and the Giants took the ball, clinching the victory.

NFL vice president of offi-



Alfred Morris scores the Redskins' first TD, however, he would be held to just 26 yards on 11 carries

ciating Dean Blandino said officials should have halted the game to make certain everyone was aware of the situation once the incorrect information was discovered even though it meant aiding the Redskins who had used all of their timeouts. "Referee Jeff Triplette signaled third down but the head linesman -- with Washington in a 'hurry-up' situation -- incorrectly motioned for the chain crew to advance the chains, which caused the down boxes to read first down," Blandino said.

"Following a Washington

incomplete pass, the chains were moved back and the down boxes correctly reset to fourth down. "In this situation where there is obvious confusion as to the status of the down, play should have been stopped prior to third down and the correct down communicated to both clubs. "This should have occurred regardless of the fact that Washington had no timeouts and it was inside two minutes. "Only the referee can rule and signal a first down. The official nearest to the down markers and chain crew, the head linesman, must

wait for the first-down signal from the referee before moving the chains."

